

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS MEDELLIN 0223

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR-EAID-EGEN

SUBJ: SEMINAR DISCUSSES INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS

REF: BOGOTA 4864

1. A 3-DAY SEMINAR ON INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS WAS HELD IN THE QUIRAMA CONFERENCE CENTER NEAR MEDELLIN JULY 15-17. THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANIZED BY EX-PRESIDENT CARLOS LLERAS RESTREPO AND PROFESSOR PAUL N. ROSENSTEIN-RODAN OF THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY.

2. PARTICIPATING IN THE SEMINAR IN ADDITION TO LLERAS AND ROSENSTEIN-RODAN WERE: CARLOS SANZ DE SANTA MARIA, FORMER HEAD OF CIAP. ANTHONY SOLOMON, FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM RODGERS, FORMER AID OFFICIAL. JAVIER PAZOS FROM VENEZUELA. NICOLAS ARDITO BARLETTA, PANAMANIAN MINISTER OF PLANNING. AND SEVERAL WELL-KNOWN COLOMBIAN FIGURES, INCLUDING EXMINS JOAQUIN VALLEJO, JORGE VALENCIA JARAMILLO AND EX-INCOMEX DIRECTOR RAUL ARBELAEZ.

3. ACCORDING TO PARTICIPANTS, THE SEMINAR CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF A FREE-RANGING DISCUSSION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE U.S. INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR ORGANIZATION, AND COMMERCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS, INCLUDING COMMODITY PRICING, PREFERENCES AND MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS. APPARENTLY THE DISCUSSION GENERALLY FOLLOWED POINTS IN A PAPER PRESENTED BY ROSENSTEIN-RODAN, WHICH WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC. IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE MADE PUBLIC.

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4. THE SEMINAR WAS CHARACTERIZED BY CARLOS LLERAS AND ROSENSTEIN-RODAN AS A KIND OF PREPARATORY SESSION FOR A CONFERENCE ENTITLED QTE INTERAMERICAN COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1970 S (QUO VADIS INTERAMERICAN SYSTEM) END QUOTE, SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER AT THE BU LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER.

5. THE PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE MEDELLIN CONFERENCE.

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